CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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Intern'l Films Takes Over PRC

Toronto Tent Hits Second-Best Net

The net of $22,258 earned by Tent 28, Toronto, Variety International, through its stage show and "Variety Girl" premiere will likely be the second highest among the 23 premieres held, for it holds that position in 17 reports of similar affairs in differ-

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Charge Showman In Mont'l Court

Managing director of the System Theatre Operating Company, Limited, George Sterns Prahales, and his two sisters, Vasilika Prahales and Mary S. Prahales, wife of Henry Grivakas, were arraigned in a Montreal court recently on various criminal charges. Grivakas is a director of the theatre.

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Griesdorf Named President And General Manager

International Film Distributors, Limited, a newly-formed company will succeed the present Producers Releasing Corporation in Canada on November 1st, with all of the latter organization's exchanges and personnel being part of the new distribution agency. The creation of International was announced by David Griesdorf, formerly general sales manager of PRC, who has been named president and general manager.

Griesdorf, N. A. Taylor and associates are the principals of the new company. Taylor entered the Canadian distribution field in 1944 with the acquisition of PRC stock, joining with the original

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Variety Meeting October 30th

Tent No. 28, Toronto, Variety International, will hold its next meeting at Malloney's Art Gallery, 66 Grenville Street, at 5.30 p.m. on October 30th.

Nominations will be received from the committee for that purpose and canvasmen will be elected.

It is expected that the final report of the "Variety Girl" premieres and Toronto's standing will be made known.

All barkers and associate barkers are asked to be present for the elections and discussion of various matters.

RKO Lines Up 12 For Fall Release

RKO Radio Pictures enters the fall season with the most impressive line-up of product in the history of the company. Robert Mochrie, vice president and general sales manager, announces that between now and January 1st, a total of 12 top-budget

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In 'Eternal Melody'

Milada Mladova and Marc Platt, two former stars of the Ballet Russe, will be reunited for the first time on the screen in Columbia's "The Eternal Melody."

No Increase For 1948 In Capac Seat Tax

Rates to users of copyright music will not be increased for 1948 by Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada, it was announced at the annual meeting of the Motion Picture Exhibitors Association of Ontario by N. A. Taylor, president of Twentieth Century Theatres, who was asked to make the report to those present by the chairman.

The stay in rates was agreed to by representatives of Capac and the various theatre bodies concerned following a series of talks, during which an understanding was reached that negotiations would continue to de-

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Rogell To Produce

Sid Rogell will produce "Blood on the Moon" for RKO.

Full MPTAO Report In Next Edition

The annual meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association at Vanity Fair, Toronto, coincided with our deadline and we are unable to report it fully in this issue.

Next week we will provide complete coverage of what was an interesting and important meeting.

UA To Release Pic

United Artists will release Enterprise's "So This Is New York."

'FILM FANS' PARADISE?'

That's the question asked about Canada by Financial Post, Toronto, in heading its brief report on theatre building. It says:

"For all Canada, an estimated 100 or more new motion picture theatres have been built, started or ordered in the 20 postwar decontrol months Jan. 1, 1946, to Aug. 31, 1947. For that period, 243 theatre contract awards, including additions and alterations, are recorded at a combined value of $15½ millions (average $64,000) by MacLean Building Reports Ltd., an average of about 12 'starts' a month. A good fifth of all recent new theatres in Canada have been or are being built by Odeon, with about 20 undertaken in the period here reviewed."

Twentieth Century Theatres' fourth new house, under construction at Yonge and Dundas Square, will be Greater Toronto's 13th.

First Canadian prefabricated theatre, marketed by National Theatre Sales Company, Toronto, will be erected in Brampton, Ontario, for Odeon Theatres, which company operates a house there now.

Milton Gregg Wins In York-Sunbury

Milton Gregg, VC, recently appointed Minister of Fisheries in the federal cabinet, was elected to a seat in the House of Commons by voters of York-Sunbury, Fredericton, NS. Former head of the University of New Brunswick, he was at one time in the film business in the Maritimes.

Larry Druxerman Joins Selznick

Larry Druxerman, formerly with Empire-Universal Films at the company's Montreal office, has been named as sales representative for the Selznick Releasing Organization in Quebec and the Maritimes. Announced by the SRO head office in Toronto, the appointment has taken effect.

FOUR RKO PIX TO UNITED ARTISTS

United Artists has paid RKO $5 millions for four films. They are "Out of the Past," with Robert Mitchum; "Indian Summer," with Ann Sothern and Alex Knox; "Station West," with Dick Powell; and "Return of the Badman," with Randolph Scott, Robert Ryan and Ann Jeffries.

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RKO Lines Up 12 For Fall Release

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films will be presented. Heading the list are Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"; Walt Disney's "Fun and Fancy Free" and Robert Riskin's "Magic Town," all now enjoying highly successful pre-release engagements.

Other forthcoming productions are "So Well Remembered," presented by RKO Radio Pictures and J. Arthur Rank, with an Anglo-American cast headed by John Mills, Martha Scott, Trevor Howard, Patricia Roc and Richard Carlson; "The Fugitive," directed by John Ford from a Dudley Nichols screenplay with Henry Fonda, Dolores Del Rio and Pedro Armendariz starred; "If You Knew Susie," starring Eddie Cantor and Joan Davis; "Fighting Father Dunne," with Pat O'Brien in the title role; "Design for Death," a stirring documentary film with Kent Smith and Hans Conried as narrators; "Night Song," a John Cromwell production starring Dana Andrews, Merle Oberon and Ethel Barrymore with Hoagy Carmichael; Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," starring Cary Grant, Loretta Young and David Niven; "Tycoon," starring John Wayne and Laraine Day, with color by Technicolor; and Dore Schary's production of the great stage success "I Remember Mama," starring Irene Dunne, Barbara Bel Geddes, Oscar Homolka and Philip Dorn and directed by George Stevens.

RKO Radio's current releases include such boxoffice smash hits as "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," and "Crossfire," both Dore Schary productions; Hakim Bros. "The Long Night," and Samuel Goldwyn's Academy Award winning "The Best Years of Our Lives."

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International Films Succeeds PRC

(Continued from Page 1)

franchise holder, H. J. Allen, who was president until his recent withdrawal. Allen has since established his own distribution organization and will shortly make his plans public.

Prior to returning to the distribution field as Canadian general sales manager of PRC, Griesdorf was Odeon Theatres' Western District manager. He was connected earlier with the United Artists distribution organization in Western Canada and Los Angeles, and was for a time the general sales manager for James Roosevelt's company Globe Films, Inc., which released through UA.

International Film Distributors will offer Canadian exhibitors the products of Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Films, PRC Pictures, Anglo-American (British) Films and Pathe (British) Pictures.

J. Arthur Rank's American producing company will be in the front rank of the majors with its 1947-48 program and is attracting leading Independent producers. Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) will distribute Walter Wanger's productions under an arrangement made several months ago and news from the cinema city indicates that Hunt Stromberg will release through the company. It is also likely that John Ford's planned production unit will come under the same banner. In addition to the program of new films exhibitors will be offered the Edward Small reissues known as Screen Masterpieces.

Of special interest to Canadians is the news that "The Moneyman," latest novel by the author of "The Black Rose," Canada's Thomas B. Costain, has been purchased for $300,000 and will be made into a $2,500,000 Technicolor film.

Also on the company's releasing schedule for this season is "Northwest Stampede," a $2,500,000 color spectacle filmed partly in Banff, at the Prince of Wales' ranch in Alberta and at the Calgary Stampede. It stars Joan Leslie, James Craig and Jack Oakie.

Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) will spend $2,000,000 for trade and co-operative advertising in support of its 17 A productions, according to Max Youngstein, who heads that department in the domestic field. The program was carried in detail in our issue of October 15th.

The head office in Toronto and all branches in Canada formerly occupied by PRC have been taken over by International, including space in the addition now being completed to the film centre building in Calgary.

Managers of the company's branches are Irving Cohen, Toronto; Gerry Chernoff, Montreal; Phil Geller, Winnipeg; Willard Adamson, Vancouver; Vernon Dixon, Calgary; and Jack Bellamy, Saint John. Irving Herman is director of advertising and publicity.

Paramount Hits New All-Time Record

Paramount Pictures in Canada established a new high in revenue during the drive month of September, it was recently announced by Gordon Lightstone, Canadian general manager.

Top honors go to the Montreal branch, with Toronto and Calgary close behind. Total number of film shipments for the Dominion were 9,996 for the month, with the number of bookings reaching the 7,794 mark.

'War Party' Ready

The John Ford-Meriam C. Cooper production, "War Party," has been completed and will be released through RKO.

Edmonton Managers To Meet Monthly

The newly-organized Edmonton Theatre Managers Club will hold a luncheon meeting the first Wesdnesday in each month at the Club Roosevelt, it was decided at the first meeting recently. The meeting also found the following officers elected:

Walter P. Wilson, president; Ed Pomerleau, secretary-treasurer; Jay Lieberman, vice-president; and William H. Wilson, press agent.

In addition Maurice Rice, Clarence Entwisle, Arnold Entwisle, Roly Keil, George Cranston, Sam Binder, Fred Varlow, Scotty Beggs and Everett Etheridge, were in attendance.

DAVID GRIESDORF
President and general manager of International Film Distributors, Limited, which company has succeeded PRC in Canada.

Potter To Direct

H. C. Potter, remembered for his direction of "The Farmer's Daughter," has been signed by RKO Radio to direct Cary Grant and Myrna Loy in "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House"

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Charge Showman In Mont'l Court

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Louis Fitch, KC, lawyer for the accused, stated that their appearance in court arose out of business difficulties between different parties during the past year.

George Prahales was accused of stealing $15,213 from the corporation between May 1, 1941, and December 31, 1946. In addition, he was accused in 31 other counts of falsifying documents by forging names between October 12, 1941, and June 28, 1942, and also of falsifying books with intent to defraud the corporation in 195 other counts dating from August 16, 1942, to January 28, 1943.

One of the sisters, Vasilika Prahales, whose position was described as theatre clerk, was charged with stealing $2,353 between May 24, 1940, and April 30, 1946, the property of the theatre, and also with receiving and keeping the sum in her possession.

The other sister, Mary S. Prahales, described as a housewife, was accused of stealing $5,495 from the corporation between November 9, 1941, and September 1, 1946, and also of receiving and possessing sums of $700 and $1,000 between the same dates. The complaints were signed by Harulamtos Basilian Koulosotiannopoulos, described as a business executive residing at 107 Sherbrooke Street East.

Ford Gets Lead

Glenn Ford will have the male lead in Columbia's "The Return of October."

Film Classics' Conference

Taken at the recent New York conference of Film Classics, the top photograph, from the left, shows Albert Mannheimer, superintendent of exchanges; Joe Emde, home office comptroller; Joe Miller, Buffalo district manager; and I. H. Allen, Canadian franchise holder. In the lower picture, also from the left, are Eugene Arnstein, treasurer; Joseph Bernhard, president; Sam Wheeler, general sales manager; Jule Chapman, assistant sales manager; and Al Zimbalist, publicity.

Cinecolor Corporation recently acquired all the stock of Film Classics.

MGM British Head Awarded CBE

Sam Eckman, Jr. managing director and chairman of the board of MGM Pictures Limited of England, has been named Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in a recent announcement. The CBE award, usually made for outstanding service during war, is the highest decoration which can be given to a non-British recipient and is considered the equivalent of knighthood.

Eckman has headed MGM interests in Britain for over 20 years and recently celebrated his 30th anniversary in the motion picture industry. He is also a member of the board of directors of Loew's International Corporation. Before going to London in 1927 as managing director of Jury-Metro-Goldwyn Limited as MGM was then known, he headed MGM distribution for the eastern seaboard of the USA. Previously he had been associated with Mutual Films, Triangle Films and the Goldwyn Distributing Corporation.

Dramatist Signed

Warners has signed Otis Bigelow, dramatist and radio writer to a term writing deal.

'Deep Water' Cast

Dean Stockwell and Anne Revere have been added to the cast of 20th Century-Fox' "Deep Water" which stars Dana Andrews and Jean Peters. Henry King will direct the film, which is based on the novel, "Spoonhandle," by Ruth Moore.

Wurtzel, 20th-Fox Sign New Contract

Sol M. Wurtzel Productions has closed a new deal with 20th Century-Fox calling for 12 Wurtzel productions for 20th-Fox release in the next two years. First six are to be made in 1948, beginning on January 1st, and last six are to be delivered in 1949. Negotiations were carried through by Joseph Moskowitz, vice-president of Wurtzel Productions, and was announced by Wurtzel and I. B. Kornblum on their return from New York conferences.

Current pact between the two companies winds up in November when a comedy drama goes into production.

RKO Title Change

"Jackpot" is the final title for the RKO film starring George Raft formerly known as "Race Street."

'The Devil's Delight' Korda-Grant Film

Cary Grant's first picture for Sir Alexander Korda will be "The Devil's Delight," according to word received from London. Carol Reed will direct the picture from a story and script by Alan Melville. Grant, who is in England now conferring with Korda, will return to America shortly and then go back to London in January.

Production will get under way at the London Films' studio in February. "The Devil's Delight" will be distributed in this country by 20th Century-Fox.

Toronto Tent Hits Second-Best Net

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ent cities. The Toronto money went into the fund for the establishment of Variety Village, a $100,000 vocational school and residence for crippled children. The fund stands at $70,000 now.

Leading all tents heard from to date is No. 25, Los Angeles, which netted $27,500 with the premiere and an all-star stage show jointly emceed by Bob Hope and George Jessel. An estimated crowd of 16,000 thronged the streets to watch the celebrities arrive.

Earnings of other tents are:

Minneapolis	$18,500.00
San Francisco	12,722.00
Miami	10,700.00
Atlanta	10,324.00
Pittsburgh	10,200.00
Dallas	8,700.00
Detroit	7,405.00
Des Moines	6,974.00
Omaha	4,113.00
Boston	3,700.00
Charlotte	3,727.00
Toledo	3,650.00
Buffalo	3,500.00
Indianapolis	2,287.50
Baltimore	2,198.00
New Haven	1,776.00

Chicago is among the tents to be heard from.

In excess of $200,000 was raised for charity and in every instance the money was retained by the local tent sponsoring the premiere for its heart fund.

The premiere idea was finalized during the Variety convention in Los Angeles through discussions held by R. J. O'Donnell, International Chief Barker; John H. Harris, Big Boss; and Charles Reagan, General Sales Manager of Paramount Pictures. After that Colonel William McCraw, Executive Director of Variety, toured the tents to explain the workings of the plan.

Fred Astaire Back

Fred Astaire, who retired from stage and screen more than a year ago, will replace Gene Kelly opposite Judy Garland in MGM's Technicolor Irving Berlin musical, "Easter Parade." Kelly was forced out of the production by a broken ankle sustained in rehearsals.

Top Roles Set For 'Fuller Brush Man'

Janet Blair will have the romantic lead opposite Red Skelton in Columbia's forthcoming comedy, "The Fuller Brush Man." Don McGuire and Ross Ford have been signed for top featured roles in the picture. S. Sylvan Simon will produce and direct the Edward Small production.

No Increase In Capac Seat Tax

cide a higher tariff in 1949 satisfactory to both parties. When agreed on the new rates would be submitted to the Copyright Appeal Board in Ottawa for approval.

The Copyright Appeal Board will be asked to designate a representative who would bring both parties together and facilitate negotiations, so that the time occupied before the Board would be reduced. It is hoped that a joint submission can be made before November 1st of next year.

Canadian rates to theatres have been the same since 1936, when a five-year agreement took effect. The agreement ended during the war and the tariff was kept at the same level. Capac, which succeeded the Canadian Performing Right Society and exchanges repertoires with its equivalent agencies in the USA and Britain, derives about $76,000 annually from Dominion theatres.

The Independent Theatre Owners of America, USA exhibitors association, has undertaken action in the courts to restrain Ascap, American equivalent of Canada's Capac, from applying its new rates to theatres. It asks an injunction and at the same time seeks to restore to the court calendar its earlier case against Ascap, which was postponed for six months by agreement of all parties concerned.

Exhib and Capac Representatives Agree to Negotiate Higher Theatre Tariff for '49

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"The instant application has for its purposes (1) the preservation of the status quo pending the final determination of this action wherein the right of Ascap to make any charge is directly in issue, and (2) the restoration of this case to the calendar for immediate trial so that all questions can be disposed of with finality," said Harry Brandt, president of the ITOA. "The precipitant action of Ascap in electing to terminate existing agreements and to impose the new rates demonstrates its absolutely dictatorial control over the motion picture exhibition industry."

In the USA the relationship between Ascap and its customers is the same as exists in any other industry. In Canada, however, the Copyright Appeal Board, which meets annually in Ottawa, has the right of approval over license fees. All such fees must be filed with this government body, before which representatives of Capac and its clients appear to support their positions. Capac, Canada's music royalties collection agency, intends to more than double its rates in the future but will endeavor to obtain exhibitor approval before filing its tariff with the board.

"Ascap, whose control has perverted the normal development of the entire motion picture industry," said Brandt, has "under the guise of a benevolent association organized for the protection of the poor and defenseless creative author and composer . . . achieved a monopolistic control."

Motion picture producers "in bargaining with the copyright proprietors of music for the right to incorporate such music into their film productions, do not and cannot bargain at the source, so to speak, for the right of public exhibition or performance of the music so incorporated in the film," Brandt stated. While exhibition rights to all other component parts of a film are acquired, in the case of music "the producer's bargaining ability is limited to bargaining for synchronization rights."

This splitting of synchronization and exhibition rights, caused by Ascap's Articles of Association and its contracts, contributes largely to its domination and control of the industry, he contended.

Nor has the exhibitor the legal right "to delete from any film licensed from them for exhibition any portion of the dialogue or music incorporated therein."

"Normal economics of the motion picture industry dictate and require that the rights of synchronization, as well as of exhibition and license for exhibition should be simultaneously acquired at the source of manufacture or production and not divided, because a motion picture film production is economically valueless without the right to exhibit it. Thus, by withholding the right of public performance of their copyrighted musical compositions synchronized with motion pictures, the members of Ascap, through their assignee, Ascap, control the public exhibition rights of the entire motion picture, even though their contribution to the motion picture may be insignificant in relation to the other component parts thereof."

Schary Buys Story

Dore Schary, RKO production head, has acquired "Honored Glory," a story idea submitted by Henry Grunwald, contributing editor of Time and Life magazines.

Two RKO Pix Win

Two RKO productions won first prizes at the recent Cannes film festival. Walt Disney's "Dumbo" was named as the best feature animated cartoon and "Crossfire" was selected as the best social film. In all, Hollywood took three of the top six awards.

Mono Sets Cast For 'Old Gray Mayor'

New cast signed for "The Old Gray Mayor," Monogram's current Teen-Agers musical, includes George Fields, Don Ripps, Dick Paxton and Billy Snyder. Featured cast re-signed for continuation of the series comprises Freddie Stewart, June Preisser, Noel Neill, Frankie Darro and Warren Mills. Series is produced and directed by Will Jason, and Gene Krupa's band is featured in the film.

It's a problem!

"We want seats by ourselves. The children have measles."

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Lines and Outlines

By the Sweat of My Browse

The James Masons have in-laws living in Leaside, Toronto suburb . . . **Oft-heard** eary note these days: "Where can a guy find a good racket?". . . **Arc lamps** are being used with 16 mm. equipment in several local auditoriums with fine results. . . **What is it** with that booker who used to be such a quiet fellow? Now he's brash and assertive, a la Red Skelton in "The Show-Off." Must have sent away the coupon or something. . . **A nice job** is that NFB short about the Ex, "Johnny at the Fair"—at least audiences seem to think so. Jack Olsen directed. . . **Brevignette** of Lizabeth Scott: "Sphinx-faced". . . **The Highway** Department film preaches safety but ends with a character entering his car from the road side.

Let Us Prey: A taxi driver told me about an unusual fare, a well-dressed man who hired him to cruise at random through a wealthy district. Whenever they came to a mansion so splendid that obviously a rich man resided therein, the fare had him stop. He then got out, rang the bell, chatted with the door-answerer for a minute or two, came back to the cab and continued the search.

It seems that the fare was a stockateer looking for possible suckers. By asking for someone who didn't live there he learned the name of the well-to-do master of the mansion. When he had compiled a list of prospects he and his associates began the selling procedure, after determining the sucker's suitability, of course.

A hotel in Melbourne, Australia, runs a 16 mm. performance of cartoons and documentaries on Sunday nights without charge to guests. . . **Price for the Skyway** Drive-in transfer to Silverwood, the dairy man, was between $300,000 and $400,000, says Financial Post. Can it be that those who live in the land of milk see this industry as the land of honey?. . . **The death of** Sam Hoffenstein, the screen writer, who passed away in Hollywood at 57 of a heart attack, made me sad. I have always cherished his "Poems in Praise of Practically Nothing," a wise, human and witty book, and have carried it with me during three trips across the USA and back. His "Year In, Your Out" was just as good. He passed on just as his new book of poems, "Pencil in the Air," the first in many years, was about to be issued.

Music for motion pictures is part of the arranging course being conducted by Lucio Agostini at Lorne Greene's Academy of Radio Arts. . . **Sig Rubin,** Winnipeg theatre artist for all companies, was On the Square . . . **The Nick Dotsch's** new daughter is their second. They have a boy. . . **Plans for** a new and different Massey Hall elsewhere seem to have been dropped... **Saw the name** "Cinicola" on a sign and thought it advertised the name of a theatre-vended drink. It's a builder's monicker... **Sign** in a radio store: "We repair everything but a broken heart". . . Did you know that "receipt" and "recipe" mean the same thing?

A man walked into a vaudeville booker's office, asked for dates, wanted to audition but said that he would require a theatre for that purpose. He seemed like a sound enough fellow so the booker arranged to use a nearby theatre before it opened for business.

The booker sat out front. The man came out of the wings, walked to the centre of the stage, bowed, flapped his arms like wings and flew upward with no artificial aid. For ten minutes he whirled and swirled and looped and swooped from chandelier to seats and balcony to boxes. Then slowly and beautifully, with arms moving sidewise, he glided back to the stage, landed perfectly on his feet and bowed.

"Well," he asked, "how do you like my act?"

The booker rubbed his chin, silent and reflective, then spoke. "Tell me," he answered, "what else do you do beside bird imitations?"

Snips, Snoops and Snaps

In Oliver La Farge's "Raw Material," which is described as "The autobiographical examination of an artist's journey into maturity," the author discusses religion and describes any meaningless concept or practice, origin of which is lost in antiquity, as a complex. As an example of a complex he writes this story:

"A friend of mine had an excellent Chinese cook. Wanting him to learn a certain receipt for making cake, she sent him to a friend's house to watch the process. The receipt called for six eggs and the friend broke them one by one into a bowl, putting each in turn into the batter. The fourth egg was bad, so she threw it away. A year or so later the cook, who had learned to make the cake to perfection, was asked to give the receipt to another friend. 'You take seven eggs,' he said. 'You put three into the batter, throw away one, then put in three more."

Life generally is full of such complexes, with each race of people having them about the other, and through them ancient prejudices are kept alive. They can be dangerous as well as meaningless.

"Why is it," one man said to another as the argument became personal, "that you think louder than anyone I know?"

"Because," was the retort, "you have a deafer brain than anyone I know."

A newspaper story of a cat that likes to swim reminds me of ours, which doesn't mind the rain. In fact, it never rains but it purrs.

"Cursed be the Inheritors," observed the neighborhood philosopher as he noticed an imperious punk making himself obnoxious "for they have neither humility nor gratitude."

I must tell you about an incident involving a couple of friends of mine. One borrowed the other's tuxedo and the next time the lender wore it he noticed that it was too large. "Did you let out my tuxedo?" he asked accusingly. The other's reply that he had drew an angry outburst. "What are you getting sore about?" the borrower asked with indignation of his own. "I paid for the alterations, didn't I?"

Did you hear about the fellow who stayed late at work and when he reached the street suddenly remembered that it was his wedding anniversary? He wanted to buy his wife a present but the stores were closed. A pawn shop was open and he saw a grandfather clock inside. His wife had always wanted one but he had avoided buying it because of the price and the noise. This was the answer so he bought it, walking down the street with it on his back. A little old fellow bumped into him and it crashed on the pavement. He abused the bumper loudly and angrily. "You shouldn't talk that way," the little man chided him mildly. "It's your fault, not mine. Why can't you do as everyone else does—wear a wrist watch?"

Overheard: "He keeps his car like his booth — and he has the neatest booth in the city." That praise helped sell a 1937 car. . . . **Comment about** a certain young manager who just fathered his fourth child: "He seems to be breeding profusely" . . . **Quebec Allied** Theatrical Industries' annual meeting will be in Montreal next week. . . . **The Fox Canadian** newsreel has switched from Film Lab in Toronto to ASN in Montreal. . . . **"Northwest Stampede"** will be preemed in Calgary, I hear. . . . **Pete Egan** of Calgary was in town and dropped into the MPTAO meeting, he being invited with a flourish when they learned that he was at the Park Plaza. But he couldn't stay, Mrs. Egan having been operated on that morning. Her blindness, which left her as a young girl, returned and she came here for surgery.... **Milton Gregg,** new MP from Fredericton, followed Tom Daley as manager of the old Casino in Halifax.

Paramount's 'Dear Ruth'

PARAMOUNT'S "Dear Ruth," the film-ization of the stage play, starring Joan Caulfield and William Holden, is loaded with laughs and seems a sure draw for any exhibitor.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol 12, No. 42 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Crossfire

with Robert Young, Robert Mitchum, Robert Ryan

RKO 86 Mins.

POTENT PLEA FOR TOLERANCE RISING FROM A FRAMEWORK OF HOMICIDE IS ABLY PLAYED AND FINELY DIRECTED.

Rising from a framework of homicide, "Crossfire" is fashioned into a potent plea for tolerance, stripping to the bone an example of native anti-Semitism. The structure of the plot is firm. The screenplay is simple, intelligent, pointed. By its simplicity, the significance of the problem is gotten across and sticks in the mind for future consideration and mulling.

What Director Edward Dmytryk set out to do in "Crossfire" is to tell a story of racial hatred and intolerance that is so intense it causes the violent death of an individual because his name is not "right" and he is of another faith. Dmytryk accomplished this end in realistic fashion. As this film will probably be the first milestone in a trend, it should receive widespread playing time. As a whodunit it has relentless police work to furnish drama, as a film with significance it faces a problem squarely, breaks it down to fundamental components.

Richard Brooks' novel, "The Brick Foxhole," upon which it is based, is brought up to date and laid in postwar Washington. There, among the locally-based soldiery, the segments of the plot are played out with Robert Young as the civilian policeman. He enters the picture when Sam Levene is found dead after being severely beaten. It is no sleuthing problem that is laid before the audience for they know almost at the outset who is guilty. But Young cannot pin sufficient evidence on the culprit. Another murder takes place, also by the killer.

With assistance from Robert Mitchum, Young eliminates suspects, arranges a trap and plants his bait. Robert Ryan is confronted on the scene of the second crime and an admission is forced from him. He breaks away, is killed by gunfire in the street.

CAST: Robert Young, Robert Mitchum, Robert Ryan, Gloria Grahame, Paul Kelly, Sam Levene, Jacqueline White.

CREDITS: A Dore Schary Production; Produced by Adrian Scott; Director, Edward Dmytryk; Screenplay, John Paxton; Based on novel by Richard Brooks; Photography, J. Roy Hunt.

DIRECTION, Fine. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Duel in the Sun

with Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten, Gregory Peck, Lionel Barrymore, Herbert Marshall, Lillian Gish, Walter Huston and Charles Bickford

Selznick Releasing Organization 138 Mins.

DARING ROMANCE, THRILLING ACTION, OPULENT PRODUCTION, MASTERLY DIRECTION, STERLING ACTING AND TECHNICOLOR AT ITS BEST MAKE THIS ONE OUTSTANDING BOXOFFICE.

It has been a long wait, but exhibitors can be assured it has been worthwhile. David O. Selznick's production has daring, romance, thrilling action, masterly direction by King Vidor, sterling acting and Technicolor at its very best.

The love scenes between Gregory Peck and Jennifer Jones are among the most torrid filmed since the inception of talking pictures and will create mouth-to-mouth publicity that should mean heavy shekels at the boxoffice.

For both Peck and Jennifer Jones, "Duel" is a change of pace and they enhance their histrionic stature with their performances. Joseph Cotten is splendid, although at times he appears to be underplaying his role. Lionel Barrymore and Lillian Gish furnish unforgettable characterization, while Walter Huston, as an evangelistic "sin-killer," and Herbert Marshall make much of smaller parts.

Selznick wrote the screenplay, based on a novel by Niven Busch. Oliver H. P. Garrett furnished the adaptation. The splendid photography was handled by three veteran cinematographers, Lee Garmes, Hal Rosson and Ray Rennahan, with additional photography credited to Charles P. Boyle and Allen Davey.

The music, an important factor in the production, was written and conducted by Dimitri Tiomkin.

Herbert Marshall kills his Indian wife, Tilly Losch, a dancer, and her sweetheart, Sidney Blackmer. Before he is hung for his crime, Marshall sends his half-breed daughter, Jennifer Jones, to live with his former sweetheart, Lillian Gish, who is married to Lionel Barrymore, despotic ruler of "The Spanish Bit," a vast Texas ranch.

Barrymore and Lillian Gish have two sons—Peck, wild and spoiled by his father; Cotten, studious and his mother's favorite son.

Cotten falls in love with Jennifer, but before he can tell her of his love, Peck works his will on her. She is anxious that he announce their "engagement" and he promises to, but his father, who can never forget his old rival, her father, interferes.

Barrymore fights against the invasion of his landed empire by a railroad, and when Cotten, who is for advance and progress, sides with the railroad representatives, Barrymore orders his son from his home.

When Peck throws her aside and refuses to marry her, Jennifer agrees to marry Charles Bickford, a foreman, although she tells him she does not love him. However, Peck, maintaining she is still his "girl," slays Bickford.

Peck hides out from the law, but when he learns that his brother, Cotten, has returned and has tried to befriend Jennifer, he shoots him down in cold blood.

Peck takes to the hills, but Jennifer learns of his hiding place. She had great affection for Cotton, who had always been her friend. She is determined to kill Peck, and when she spies him in the hills, she fires on him.

Wounded, Peck shoots Jennifer. Dying, he tells her he wants her in his arms, and she comes to him. He tells her of his love for her. She has also been fatally wounded and they die in each other's arms.

CAST: Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten, Gregory Peck, Lionel Barrymore, Herbert Marshall, Lillian Gish, Walter Huston, Charles Bickford, Harry Carey, Butterfly McQueen, Otto Kruger, Charles Dingle, Tilly Losch, Scott McKay, Sidney Blackmer, Don White, and introducing Joan Tetzel.

CREDITS: Producer, David O. Selznick; Director, King Vidor; Screenplay, David O. Selznick; Suggested by novel by Niven Busch; Adaptation, Oliver H. P. Garrett; Cameramen, Lee Garmes, Hal Rosson, Ray Rennahan.

DIRECTION, Splendid. PHOTOGRAPHY, Excellent.

'Mystery In Mexico'

William Lundigan, Jacqueline White and Ricardo Cortez will star in RKO's "Mystery in Mexico."

Actor Contracted

Henry Morgan has been signed for his movie debut in "So This Is New York," which Screen Plays, Inc. is producing.

Mother Wore Tights

with Betty Grable, Dan Dailey

20th-Fox 107 Mins.

SOLID: GRADE "A" ENTERTAINMENT WELL SPENT FOR WHAT WAS SOUGHT.

Knowing how and knowing what constitutes Grade "A" entertainment Lamar Trotti herewith delivers. Produced by Trotti, the screenplay is also his work. Director Walter Lang gets every last musical, gag, dramatic note and with the further enhancement of Technicolor the resulting end product is very certainly another solid contribution from 20th-Fox.

We see Betty Grable sailing across San Francisco Bay from Oakland to land a job in the line at Schneider's. There she meets Dan Dailey and first thing she's in love with him but he and his hyper-ego cannot see it so she goes off to LA. But she returns for her heart is not in the act without Dailey. Women's wiles being just that, she gets him to marry her and from then on it is the success story and of course two daughters are born. The elder one, played by Mona Freeman, is the narrator.

Miss Grable manages to raise her offspring but Dailey and the road calls. They go on to greater triumphs. The girls grow up. After a vacation at a summer hotel in the Berkshires Miss Freeman gets a case of young love on Robert Arthur. He's scion of Wall St. bankers. Miss Freeman and sister Connie Marshall are then packed off to a finishing school to become model young ladies. Miss Grable and Dailey, as "Burt & McKinney," hit the road. The girls are a success at school. It was just what they needed. A problem looms after a bit wherein Miss Freeman becomes ashamed of her stage-loving parents. They are booked to play the school town. Miss Freeman develops tantrums. Miss Grable and Dailey give their show, Miss Freeman's class attends and the show business onus Miss Freeman feared does not make itself apparent.

CAST: Betty Grable, Dan Dailey, Mona Freeman, Connie Marshall, Vanessa Brown, Robert Arthur, Sara Allgood, William Frawley.

CREDITS: Producer, Lamar Trotti; Director, Walter Lang; Screenplay, Lamar Trotti; based on the book by Mariam Young.

DIRECTION, Splendid. PHOTOGRAPHY, Fine.

Scribes Having It Tough In H'wood

The bottom has fallen out of Hollywood's original story market, a comprehensive survey conducted by Eagle-Lion's story editor, David Stephenson, revealed today. And this means, of course, that just as soon as writers become aware that production costs are now the major factor in making pictures and shape their yarns to fit limited sets and wardrobes, the market for original stories would again start to rise.

Stephenson, who recently completed an industry-wide survey in an effort to determine just where and how motion picture studios obtain their screen stories, found that the market for original stories had fallen off over 75 per cent in the past six months.

Thus, a hitherto-wonderful source of additional income for free-lance writers and directors, and a favorite field for "amateur" writers attempting to break into the motion picture field, has been almost entirely cut off.

In preparing his survey, Stephenson queried all Hollywood studios and nearly every story agent. In every case, purchases of original yarns were down to a minimum.

Prior to the recent slump, Stephenson learned that 20 per cent of the average studio's motion picture output was derived from original stories purchased from people not on the studio payroll. An additional eight per cent of the films emanated from original stories written by contract writers.

Film adaptations of published novels, short stories and articles accounted for 47 per cent of the total pictures produced in Hollywood; purchase of stage plays equaled 12 per cent of the total production; and remakes of old pictures comprised the remaining 13 per cent.

Stephenson's survey also proved what has been apparent for some time; that studio purchases of high priced novels and plays have fallen off considerably. Agents and studio heads agreed that the increased cost of production and the declining boxoffice returns were responsible for this curtailment.

At the same time, the percentage of original stories by salaried writers being adapted into screenplay form, surged upward Studios are demanding that writers work largely on their own original yarns, which cuts down the story cost. Remakes of past hits are also increasing among present studio production.

Tetzlaff To Direct

Ted Tetzlaff will direct RKO's "The Window."

Echoes and Reflections

Unnecessary Extra Censorship

(From the Montreal Gazette)

It is a sound and generally accepted principle that censorship of motion pictures, as well as other forms of artistic, dramatic or informative expression, should be kept to a minimum dictated by common sense. Certainly it should be avoided where it is not demonstrably necessary to prevent the public display of obscene, immoral, seditious or otherwise inflammatory presentations.

Both of these criteria seem to have been set aside in the summary extension of provincial movie censorship to cover all narrow gauge (16 mm.) films shown anywhere in Quebec, as well as the regular 35 mm. productions shown in commercial motion picture theatres. Following up a forecast two weeks ago by Premier Duplessis, an order-in-council was announced over the week-end that will require approval of the smaller size films by the provincial board of censors before they can be exhibited.

The action raises several questions of policy and difficulties of administration which perhaps were overlooked in Mr. Duplessis' anxiety to curb the circulation of what he considers to be "subversive" films in the province. For one thing, it tends to make censorship inclusive rather than minimum, and to have it applied on a restrictive instead of judicious basis. For another thing, the circumstances in which the new order was made and the Premier's public comments on the matter make it apparent that the broadened censorship might be political in nature, rather than for the protection of public morals.

Mr. Duplessis was avowedly inspired to make his present move by the prospective appearance in Canada of a pro-union film produced under the auspices of the C.I.O. The Government intended, he said, to protect the younger generation and the people generally from such "insidious and revolutionary propaganda," preaching "Communism and disorder."

Published descriptions of the film's contents and theme create some doubts whether the presentation is quite as reprehensible as Mr. Duplessis claims. But in any event, it is highly debatable whether all educational and special purpose films should be subject to ban by a Government agency because they fail to conform to the Government's particular outlook. There is widening acceptance for the view that the best way to fight Communism is to bring its preachings and activities into the open, expose its dangerous fallacies by vigorous counter-attack, and leave the public to judge for itself.

Mr. Duplessis, on the other hand, in apparently trying to protect the average citizen from exposure to what he does not think is good for him, has now imposed arbitrary control over a wide range of films, even those privately produced for specific purposes and those shown only to private or organizational groups. The law may prove difficult to administer, and certainly will bear watching in its application.

Juvenile Program By USA Industry

The American film industry will endeavor to serve regularly the screen tastes of some 15,000,000 kiddies between the ages of six and twelve, Eric Johnston announced recently. This decision was reached, the president of the Motion Picture Association of America said, upon the conclusion this month of a successful experimental year in the field of selecting motion pictures for a children's age group that represents over ten per cent of the population of the United States.

Approximately 2,500 theatres, with locations calculated to accommodate the greatest number of children in their area, will be enlisted during the ensuing year to screen these specially graded films each Saturday. The MPAA statement also reveals:

A jury of forty children, so varied that their verdict will represent a cross section of their age group throughout the country, initially will pass upon what motion pictures are acceptable. Before these films are admitted to the Children's Film Library, as this movement is known, the judgment of a group of mothers will be recorded. These mothers, representing a wide range of women's organizations and educational institutions, will weigh the choice of the children from moral and educational aspects as well as that of entertainment. In the event of a dispute between the two "juries," a committee of experts in child guidance—a psychologist, a psychiatrist, and an educator—will arbitrate the varying viewpoints.

The Children's Film Library is starting its new year with 42 feature films.

In order to facilitate weekly Saturday shows for theatre owners throughout the entire year, the Children's Film Library will supplement its own listing with recent and current motion pictures. Those films which industry preview committees regularly classify as "for children," may be booked by exhibitors who cooperate in the movement.

During the experimental year as many as 1,500 theatres participated in the Children's Film Library program.

Star To Produce

Arthur Lake, star of the "Blondie" series, has formed Arthur Lake Productions, Incorporated, to produce "16 Fathoms Deep" in Ansco color for Monogram release.

Republic Buys Story

Republic has bought Manny Seff's "One Man's Diary."

In 'Sitting Pretty'

Clifton Webb and Maureen O'Hara will star in 20th Century-Fox' "Sitting Pretty."

Bond Cast In 'Joan'

Ward Bond has been added to the cast of Sierra Pictures' "Joan," which will star Ingrid Bergman and be released through United Artists.

Dorothy Lamour Set

Dorothy Lamour has been signed by Columbia to star in an untitled musical.

Actress Replaced

Anne Baxter will replace Gene Tierney in 20th Century-Fox' "The Walls of Jericho," in which Linda Darnell and Ann Dvorak are also starred.

"To catapult to top-grosser bracket. Can't miss!" —Hollywood Variety

"B. O. winner!" —Variety

EVERY BODY IS SOLD ON

"Sure to make impressive mark on boxoffice. Terrific impact!" —M. P. Herald

"Outstanding, powerful. Garfield's best guarantees grosses!" —M. P. Daily

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with ANNE REVERE • WILLIAM CONRAD • LLOYD GOFF • JOSEPH PEVNEY • CANADA LEE • Directed by ROBERT ROSSEN • Produced by BOB ROBERTS • Original Screen Play by ABRAHAM POLONSKY

THEY CAN'T FORESEE "THE UNSUSPECTED"!

THEY CAN'T FORGET "THE UNSUSPECTED"!

FROM **WARNER BROS.** NOW COMES

THE UNSUSPECTED

starring JOAN CAULFIELD · CLAUDE RAINS · AUDREY TOTTER · CONSTANCE BENNETT · HURD HATFIELD

and introducing MICHAEL NORTH

Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ

Produced by CHARLES HOFFMAN

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Screen Play by Ranald MacDougall • Adaptation by Bess Meredyth • From a Story by Charlotte Armstrong • Music by Franz Waxman